

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 IOE-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-02 H-01

SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01

INRE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 OIC-02 /053 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 392

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

S E C R E T GENEVA 0646

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PARM, US, VN

SUBJ: PRG ISSUE AT LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE

1. PRIOR TO PLENARY MTG ON SUBJ CONFERENCE
(REPORTED SEPTTEL), ALDRICH MET WITH GRABER FOR 40
MINUTES TO EXPLAIN IN DETAIL PROCEDURAL
MOVES USDEL INTENDED TO MAKE IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT WE
WOULD AT LEAST GET FAIR TREATMENT.
ALDRICH GAVE HIM IN WRITING FULL STATEMENT OF
POINT OF ORDER HE INTENDED TO RAISE, THE SUPPORTING
REASONS, AND THE ACTIONS WE HOPED GRABER WOULD TAKE.
THEREFORE, GRABER'S TOTALLY UNHELPFUL ACTIONS AT
THE FIRST PLENARY (SEE SEPTTEL) MUST HAVE BEEN AT
LEAST PARTLY DELIBERATE.
2. ALDRICH AND AMB LOI (GVN) TOGETHER SAW
GRABER FOR MORE THAN ONE HOUR IN LATE AFTERNOON TO
ENSURE THAT PLENARY TOMORROW WOULD GO MORE
SMOOTHLY. WE ARE NOT ENCOURAGED. GRABER CONTINUES
TO RESIST DEALING WITH OUR REQUEST FOR RULING ON
APPLICABLE VOTING RULE AS POINT OF ORDER. HE SAID
FLATLY HE WOULD NOT RULE AND WOULD SIMPLY POSE THE
CHOICE TO THE CONFERENCE AND TRY TO OBTAIN AN EARLY
VOTE AFTER A SHORT DEBATE. TO ALDRICH'S OBJECTION

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THAT THE RULES OF PROCEDURE PERMIT NO DEBATE ON

POINTS OF ORDER, HE MERELY SHRUGGED AND SAID DEBATE
COULD NOT BE AVOIDED ON SUCH A MAJOR POLITICAL ISSUE.

3. GIVEN GRABER'S ATTITUDE IT WILL BE A MIRACLE
IF WE WIN THIS PROCEDURAL ISSUE. OUR LATEST VOTE
COUNT (SEPTEL) GIVES US MERELY A TWO-VOTE MARGIN
IN THE BEST OF CIRCUMSTANCES. THE IRONY OF IT IS
THAT HE PROBABLY THINKS HE IS BEING IMPARTIAL.
DALE

SECRET

NNN

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